

App. No.: 10/613,911
Atty. Doc. No.: D03041

REMARKS

In the Final Office Action mailed on may 26, 2005, the Examiner objected to the specification and rejected claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0233553 to Parks et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,809,144 to Sirbu et al.

In response, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 3-9 and cancelled claims 2 and 11-13. No new matter has been added.

In rejecting claim 1, the Examiner asserts it would have been obvious to modify Parks et al. using Sirbu et al. because session keys are more suited in a case where a time object is only required sporadically. The Examiner fails to provide any citation to any prior art reference to support this conclusion. Instead it appears the Examiner is using the benefit of using a ticket-based system to transfer secure time signals outlined in the present application. The motivation to combine references cannot come from the present application.

In addition, the Parks et al. publication describes a system for transferring time signals without the use of tickets. It is presumed that the Parks et al. system is operational and therefore does not need to use tickets. It is unclear from the Examiner's rejection why one of ordinary skill in the art would want to modify the operational system described by Parks et al.. The combination proposed by the Examiner does not solve a problem inherent in the Parks et al. system. Delivery of secure time signals is apparently not a problem in Parks et al. There is simply no motivation to add a ticket-based system to the system of Parks et al.

Claims 3-10 are allowable due to their dependency on an allowable base claim.

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CONCLUSION

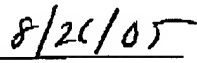
No fees are believed due for this response. However, the Office is authorized to charge any additional fees or underpayments of fees (including fees for petitions for extensions of time) under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17 to account number 502117. Any overpayments should be credited to the same account.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application, withdrawal of the rejections made in the last Office Action and the issuance of a Notice of Allowance. The Applicant's representative can be reached at the below telephone number if the Examiner has any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

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